Remedial Reading and the Law: Guidance Related to Standard C

Resources Related to Standard C (Remedial Reading Standard):

The left column includes Wisconsin statutory language related to remedial reading. The right column explains what the statute requires of districts. A school/district's systems, structures, and decisions related to these statutes work in conjunction with other education priorities, especially developing a culturally responsive multi-level system of support (Response to Intervention or RtI). Additional information and resources can be found here http://dpi.wi.gov/reading/statutory-requirements.

Relevant State Statutes

Wis.Stats., Ch. 121.02

School Board Standards (Standard c)

Each school board shall:

- (c) Provide interventions or remedial reading services for a pupil in grades kindergarten to 4 if any of the following occurs:
- 1. The pupil fails to meet the reading objectives specified in the reading curriculum plan maintained by the school board under par. (k).
- 2. The pupil fails to score above the state minimum performance standard on the reading test under par. (r) and:
 - a. A teacher in the school district and the pupil's parent or guardian agree that the pupil's test performance accurately reflects the pupil's reading ability; or
 - b. A teacher in the school district determines, based on other objective evidence of the pupil's reading comprehension, that the pupil's test performance accurately reflects the pupil's reading ability.
- 3. The pupil's reading assessment under s. 118.016 indicates that the pupil is at risk of reading difficulty. If this subdivision applies, the interventions or services provided the pupil shall be scientifically based and shall address all areas in which the pupil is deficient in a manner consistent with the state standards in reading and language arts.

This Law Requires School Districts To:

Provide intervention or remediation in relation to this statute in addition to that provided by Title I and/or special education. Federal funding sources (e.g. Title I or IDEA) cannot be used for interventions or remediation required by this law.

Review data to determine which students in grades kindergarten to 4 should be provided with intervention or remedial reading services. Services are provided when any of the following occur:

- District-selected data sources indicate a student is not meeting reading objectives specified in district-level curriculum – OR –
- A student does not meet the minimum performance standard:
 - Consider the school/district selected assessment of reading readiness for 4K through grade 3 (use score from grade 2 to determine need in grade 3)
 - Consider Wisconsin's summative assessment for grade 4 (use score from grade 3 to determine need in grade 4)

Provide intervention or remedial reading services to qualifying students that:

- Addresses all areas in which a student is struggling
- Is consistent with state standards in reading and language arts
- Is scientifically based
- Is delivered by an appropriately licensed teacher

Statute allows for local decisions about many aspects of reading intervention or remediation including setting, amount of time, or use of specific programs.



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Relevant State Statutes

Excerpts from Wis.Stats., Ch. 118.016

Assessment of Reading Readiness

(1b) Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, each school board and the operator of each charter school established under s. 118.40 (2r) or (2x) shall, using the appropriate, valid, and reliable assessment of literacy fundamentals selected by the school board or operator, annually assess each pupil enrolled in 4-year-old kindergarten to 2nd grade in the school district or in the charter school for reading readiness. The school board or operator shall ensure that the assessment evaluates whether a pupil possesses phonemic awareness and letter sound knowledge. A school board or operator may administer computer adaptive assessments.

- (1g) If a pupil is enrolled in a special education program under subch. V of ch. 115, the school board or operator of the charter school under s. 118.40 (2r) or (2x) shall comply with s. 115.77 (1m) (bg).
- (1r) The school board or operator of the charter school shall report the results of a pupil's assessment under sub. (1) to the pupil's parent or guardian.
- (2) The school board of the school district or operator of the charter school in which the pupil is enrolled shall provide a pupil whose assessment under sub. (1) indicates that he or she is at risk of reading difficulty with interventions or remedial reading services, as described under s. 121.02 (1) (c).

This law requires school districts to:

Annually administer a school/district selected assessment of reading readiness to all students in four-year-old kindergarten, kindergarten and grade 1, and grade 2.

The assessment of reading readiness, which could be computer adaptive, still must:

- Be administered at least annually
- Evaluate whether a child possesses phonemic awareness and letter sound knowledge
- Be an appropriate, valid, and reliable assessment of literacy fundamentals
- Include students enrolled in special education programs

Report the results of the school/district selected assessment of reading readiness to each student's parent(s) or guardian(s).

Provide reading intervention or remediation to any student whose performance on the school/district selected assessment of reading readiness indicates that he/she is at risk of reading difficulty using the guidelines included in Wis.Stats., Ch. 121.02



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Additional Considerations:

- Visit DPI's Office of Student Assessment (https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/reading-readiness) for more information about selecting an assessment of reading readiness.
- The assessment of reading readiness required under <u>Wis.Stats., Ch. 118.016</u> can guide instruction for all students. While <u>Wis.Stats., Ch. 121.02</u>, schools/districts can use information from the reading readiness assessment to guide instruction for all students.
- Performance on the school/district selected assessment of reading readiness is not the only criteria to consider when deciding which students must receive reading intervention or remediation under Wis.Stats., Ch. 121.02. Schools/Districts must also provide reading intervention or remediation to students who are not meeting reading objectives specified in district-level curriculum (as measured by district-selected data sources). In addition, students who earn a score within the minimal or basic ranges of the state reading test administered in grade 3 must be considered for reading intervention or remediation through grade 4.
- <u>Wis.Stats., Ch. 121.02</u> requires that intervention or remedial reading services be delivered by appropriately licensed teachers. For more information about licensure and reading instruction visit "Licensing" at https://dpi.wi.gov/reading/statutory-requirements.

